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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Soviet Fuel Depots in East Germany

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25X1

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

29 October 1953

REFERENCES

25X1

PAGES

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 14 August 1953, [redacted] the Soviet fuel depot in Dannerwida [redacted]

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25X1

2. At the beginning of July, 4 piles of about 180 x 200-liter drums each were observed at the Grunow-Mixdorf fuel depot. No special traffic to the depot was noticed.

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3. In mid-July, the Dresden-Radebeul fuel depot was still operated by an estimated 50 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Aboveground fuel containers noticed included about 20 drums each of 1 to 3 cubic meter capacity and several piles of 200-liter drums.³

25X1

4. At the beginning of August, [redacted] the Soviet fuel depot at Groebaer Hafen in Riesa was guarded by a unit from the Von-Der-Goltz Kaserne. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets. Army units were occasionally observed picking up fuel in tank trucks [redacted]

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[redacted] an air force detachment which was also stationed in the Von-Der-Goltz Kaserne was frequently seen at the depot. It was said that, in addition to fuel for the army units at the post, large amounts of fuel for the air force including emergency fields Goehlis and Canitz, were stored at the depot. [redacted]

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5. On 16 September, the Soviet fuel depot at Biesenthal was still guarded by an estimated 40 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Truck [redacted] was seen in traffic to the depot.⁵

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6. On 24 August, [redacted] a fuel depot was established near the Soviet supply depot south of the Cottbus railroad station. Several piles of gasoline drums were seen from the railroad line.⁶

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7. In mid-July, [redacted] the former ammunition depot at Fuerstensee, which is the size of 5 square kilometers and located about 6 km south-southeast of Altstrelitz, was used by the Soviets as fuel depot. A spur track led to the depot from the [redacted] station at Drewin on the Altstrelitz-Duesterforde railroad line.⁷

25X1

25X1

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

25X1

SECRET

- 2 -

25X1

25X1

8. A large German ammunition depot which was later demolished by the Soviets was located in the woods southeast of Drewin until 1945. At the beginning of August, large quantities of gasoline and oil were stored there by the Soviets.⁷

25X1

9. In mid-August, a Soviet fuel depot was located on the premises of the Deru-Maght at Handelshafen in Magdeburg-Neustadt. The depot was bounded by Saele Strasse, Zwischenwerk Strasse, Nonnewerter and Klosterkamp. Repair work at the depot was still carried out by the Verwaltung der Auslaendischen Mineraloelgesellschaften (Administration for Foreign Mineral Oil Companies) at 171 Friedrichstrasse, Berlin. The depot was occupied by Soviet Unit of not more than about 50 soldiers and commanded by Captain (Adm) Zemolov (2nd). As red-bordered black, black-bordered black and black-bordered red epaulets were observed, guard duty was performed by details detached by various units. Fuel containers at the depot were said to have included 3 containers which were 10 meters high and had 8 meters in diameter, 5 containers which were 8 meters high and had 6 meters in diameter, 6 containers which were 6 meters high and had 4 meters in diameter and several piles of 200-liter drums and about 230 drums each of about 1,000 liters. Fuel was delivered exclusively to army units. Trucks picked up fuel at the beginning of September.

incoming shipments usually came from Grosskorbetha and Krumpa and, occasionally from Ruhland.⁸

10. On 10 September, the guard unit at the Radensleben fuel depot was estimated at about 60 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. Another unit of about 100 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets was also stationed at the depot.

11. In mid-July for some time, the fuel depot at Kummersdorf has dispatched rail shipments. The depot was located on the premises of the former motor vehicle test station. The installation chiefly served units in the vicinity of Kummersdorf. Only seldom were drums with fuel dispatched by rail to distant posts.

12. The Kummersdorf fuel depot was operated by an estimated 80 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets.

13. The following is a list of rail shipments that arrived at, or were dispatched from, the Kummersdorf fuel depot between 1 July and 9 September 1953:

Incoming Shipments.

Date in 1953	Number of Cars	Shipments (in tons)	Dispatcher
4 July	3 tank cars	fuel, 58	Strassgruebchen-Bernsdorf,
5 "	1 " car	" , 16	"

25X1

SECRET

25X1

SECRET

25X1

25X1

Date in 1953	Number of Cars	Shipment (in tons)	Dispatcher	
13 July	3 tank cars	fuel,	Strassgraebchen-Bernsdorf	
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13 "	7 " "	" 132	"	
20 "	2 " "	" 38	"	
24 "	3 " "	" 54	"	
28 "	4 " "	" 77	"	
31 "	5 " "	" 98	"	
22 August	3 " "	" 58	"	
23 "	6 " "	" 117	"	
24 "	4 " "	" 76	"	
31 "	1 " "	" 16	"	
5 September	2 " "	" 37	"	
19 July	2 boxcars	military goods	Velten	
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1 August	3 tank cars	fuel, 57	"	
20 "	3 " "	" 58	"	
21 "	2 boxcar	military goods	"	
15 "	2 tank cars	fuel, 36	Grunow	
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29 "	2 " "	" 33	"	
1 "	1 gondola car	empty gasoline drums	Altstrelitz	
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Outgoing Shipments

Date in September	Number of Cars	Shipment	Receiver	
9	1 freight car	50 drums with gasoline	Jueterbor.	
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	1 " "	"	Gottbus.	
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	1 " "	"	Rosslau.	
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	1 " "	"	Wittenberg.	
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10

SECRET

25X1

SECRET

25X1

- 4 -

25X1

25X1

14. The following is a list of Soviet fuel shipments dispatched by rail from the Muenchenbernsdorf fuel depot between 1 and 31 August 1953:

Date	Number of Cars	Shipment	Receiving Station
5 to 26 August	8 tank cars 2 boxcars	gasoline	Mechterstaedt-S
5 August	1 tank car	"	Meiningen
5 to 24 August	5 " cars 2 boxcars	"	Ohrdruf
12 August	7 tank cars 2 boxcars	"	Crawinkel
13 to 27 August	2 tank cars 1 boxcar	"	Gotha
17 August	2 tank cars 1 boxcar	"	Altstrelitz
19 "	1 tank car	"	Weimar
20 "	1 " "	"	Lossa
24 "	1 " "	"	Flaen
26 "	1 " "	"	Weissenfels

11

25X1

25X1

1. [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED] Comment. Grunow-Mixdorf is a large reserve depot of the GDRG with a capacity of 4,000 to 5,000 cubic meters. [REDACTED]

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3. [REDACTED] Comment. Dresden-Radebeul is the army fuel depot of the First Gds Mecz Army. The statement on the strength of occupation is correct.

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4. [REDACTED] Comment. A large air force fuel depot which, until the transfer of the bomber corps at the end of June and the beginning of July 1953, served the flying units of the bomber corps of the Twenty Fourth Air Army and a small army fuel depot serving the units of the First Gds Mecz Army in the Riesa area are stationed in the area of Riesa Hafen. [REDACTED]

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5. [REDACTED] Comment. The army fuel depot of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army is located in Biesenthal. The truck belongs to the 10th Gds Tank Div of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army.

SECRET

25X1

SECRET

- 5 -

25X1

25X1

25X1

6. [] Comment. Presumably, small organizational dumps, probably of the 9th Mezz Div.

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7. [] Comment. The information refers to one and the same installation. In rail traffic, the installation is reported as depot Altstrelitz.

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[] It is presumably subordinate to the GOFG or Second Gds Mezz army. Intensive rail traffic at the depot during the last three months makes it appear that large quantities of fuel are being stored there.

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8. [] Comment. The installation is the army fuel depot of the Third Shock Army. Statements on the strength of personnel there are correct. Captain Zemoilov (fnu) was reported for the first time. The actual capacity of the depot is between 10,000 and 12,000 cubic meters rather than, between 2,000 and 2,500 cubic meters as stated in the report. The two lastmentioned motor vehicles belong to the GOFG and all other vehicles to the Third Shock Army.

25X1

9. [] Comment. Radensleben is a large reserve depot of the GOFG. Its

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11. [] Comment. Muenchenbernsdorf is the army fuel depot of the Eighth Gds Army. Consignees were units of the army.

SECRET

25X1